

## Manitou & Pike's Peak Railway Co.

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April 9, 2012

The Honorable Congressman Doug Lamborn 437 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Lamborn,

This letter is in support of H.R. 4073 which authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to accept the quit-claim, disclaimer and relinquishment of the railroad right-of-way that was originally granted to the Mt. Manitou Park and Incline Railway over which the upper portion of the proposed Incline Trail runs.

The Mt. Manitou Incline is extremely popular with a wide variety of users; frequent users vary from Ft. Carson soldiers to "weekend warriors" to United States Olympics competitors. Despite the increasing use, the Mt. Manitou Incline is on property with three different owners and a combined and concerted effort by many resources including the landowners and the cities of Manitou Springs and Colorado Springs is needed to make this a viable and sustainable trail.

While the trail currently exists and is in use (albeit illegally), many improvements are necessary to stabilize and sustain the trail and associated infrastructure.

H.R. 4073 is necessary to remove the final barrier to opening the trail to the general public and enabling much needed improvements to occur along the trail including removal of unsafe rebar and other hazards and stabilization of the trail itself.

The Mt. Manitou Incline has the potential to become a regional and nationwide attraction, thereby positively contributing to the economies of both cities as well as the greater Pikes Peak region.

Thank you for your support and sponsorship of H.R. 4073.

Sincerely,

W. Spencer Wren, Jr. General Manager

The Manitou & Pike's Peak Railway Company

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